

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02494 01 OF 02 291013Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 OMB-01 /075 W  
-----291018Z 047458 /21/46

R 281806Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3248  
SECDEF WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2494

CORRECTED COPY (MRN 2494 VICE 2484)

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MPOL, NATO  
SUBJECT: DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE

THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE (J DE G (77)42 - ANNEX), WHICH THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS INFORMALLY ON APRIL 29.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE - 17TH-18TH MAY, 1977

DRAFT COMMUNIQUE

- THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION MET IN BRUSSELS ON 17TH-18TH MAY, 1977.
- 2. MINISTERS TOOK STOCK OF THE OUTCOME OF THE DISCUSSION ON DEFENSE MATTERS AT THE MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL HELD IN LONDON ON 10TH-11TH MAY AT THE LEVEL OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENTS.

- TO BE EXPANDED IN THE LIGHT OF INITIATIVES
- TAKEN AT THE LONDON MEETING.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 02494 01 OF 02 291013Z

3. MINISTERS NOTED WITH INTEREST A STATEMENT BY MR. ORLA MOLLER, THIS YEAR'S CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP MINISTERS, ON CURRENT WORK IN THE EUROGROUP IN ENHANCING COLLABORATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WHOLE ALLIANCE. THEY TOOK NOTE WITH SATISFACTION OF THE PROGRESS ACCOMPLISHED IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF PRACTICAL CO-OPERATION COVERED BY THE EUROPEAN SUB-GROUPS.

4. MINISTERS HEARD A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ON THE MILITARY SITUATION . . . TO BE

EXPANDED IN THE LIGHT OF THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

5. IN A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC SITUATION AND THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT, MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF THE CURRENT POSITIONS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS (MBFR) AND THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS (SALT).

6. MINISTERS REVIEWED PROGRESS SO FAR ACHIEVED IN PROGRAMMES AND OTHER MEASURES DESIGNED TO PROMOTE GREATER ALLIANCE CO-OPERATION IN BRINGING ABOUT DEFENSE IMPROVEMENTS. EXPAND AS APPROPRIATE ON THE FOLLOWING:

- FLEXIBILITY MEASURES;
- STANDARDIZATION/INTEROPERABILITY;
- COMMUNICATIONS;
- INFRASTRUCTURE;
- AWACS.

7. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATO'S ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES, MINISTERS GAVE GUIDANCE TO THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FORCE PROPOSALS FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 1984; AND AGREED THAT THE GUIDANCE SHOULD BE ADOPTED AS A DIRECTIVE FOR ALL DEFENSE PLANNING ACTIVITIES BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL IN NATO.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 02494 01 OF 02 291013Z

8. A SUMMARY OF THE GUIDANCE IS AT ANNEX OR IN THEIR GUIDANCE, MINISTERS REAFFIRMED NATO'S OBJECTIVES OF DETERRENCE, DEFENSE AND DETENTE, AND THAT THE ALLIANCE'S OVERALL STRATEGIC CONCEPT OF FORWARD DEFENSE AND FLEXIBILITY IN RESPONSE REMAINED FULLY VALID.

9. THE GUIDANCE ACKNOWLEDGED THE CONTINUING THREAT, POSED TO NATO FORCES BY THE STEADY EXPANSION OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY CAPABILITIES, WHICH HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY OFFENSIVE IN POSTURE. IT DREW ATTENTION IN PARTICULAR TO THE CONTINUED IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STRATEGIC AND THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES OF THE SOVIET UNION, INCLUDING THE APPEARANCE OF NEW NUCLEAR MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIPPED WITH MULTIPLE WARHEADS, NOTABLY THE SS 20 MOBILE INTERMEDIATE RANGE SYSTEM, AND THE ENHANCED CAPABILITY OF THE WARSAW PACT TO STAGE A MAJOR OFFENSIVE IN EUROPE WITHOUT REINFORCEMENT AND THE CONSEQUENT COMPRESSION IN THE RANGE OF WARNING TIMES AVAILABLE TO NATO. IT NOTED THAT THE IMPROVED CAPABILITIES OF THE WARSAW PACT TACTICAL AIR FORCES NOW PERMITTED THE CONDUCT OF THE INITIAL STAGES OF AN AIR ATTACK TO A GREATER EXTENT THAN HITHERTO WITH IN-PLACE FORCES; AND THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW AND IMPROVED SHIPS, SUB-MARINES AND AIRCRAFT TOGETHER WITH OTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN MARITIME CAPABILITIES ENSURED THAT THE SOVIET UNION COULD NOW EXERCISE SEA POWER ON A GLOBAL SCALE. IT RECOGNIZED

THE CAPABILITY OF THE WARSAW PACT TO WAGE SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC WARFARE, TO MOUNT OFFENSIVE CHEMICAL WARFARE OPERATIONS AND THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO THE SOVIET MILITARY CAPABILITIES BY A LARGE CIVIL DEFENSE PROGRAM.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NATO 02494 02 OF 02 291052Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 OMB-01 /075 W  
-----291101Z 047964 /11/13

R 281806Z APR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3251  
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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 2494

CORRECTED COPY (MRN 2494 VICE 2484)

10. IN ASSESSING THE IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE THREAT, AND IN THE LIGHT OF THE INADEQUACIES SO FAR OF NATO'S RESPONSE, THE GUIDANCE IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF AREAS OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN BOTH NATIONAL AND NATO PLANNING. IT RECOGNIZED THAT NATO'S CONTINUED ABILITY TO CARRY OUT ITS STRATEGY WOULD DEPEND ON A BALANCED FORCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM DIRECTED TO BE CORRECTING CRITICAL DEFICIENCIES, AND CALLED FOR EMPHASIS TO BE PLACED ON NATO'S NEED FOR ADEQUATE, FULLY-TRAINED AND EXERCISED IN-PLACE FORCES, AND FOR ASSIGNED AND EARMARKED RESERVE FORCES CAPABLE OF BEING DEPLOYED RAPIDLY IN SUPPORT OF THE STANDING FORCES; AND ON THE PROVISION OF MEANS TO ENSURE THAT REINFORCEMENTS CAN BE DEPLOYED TO AN AREA OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT BEFORE AN AGGRESSION TAKES PLACE, OR IF WARNING TIME IS VERY SHORT, EARLY ENOUGH TO AFFECT THE INITIAL COURSE OF HOSTILITIES.

11. THE GUIDANCE DREW ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN NATO'S ANTI-ARMOR CAPABILITIES; FOR A HIGHER RATE OF IMPROVEMENT OF NATO MARITIME FORCES AND FOR A REVIEW OF NATO'S ABILITY TO COPE WITH THE LONG-TERM THREAT POSED BY THE UNREMITTING BUILD-UP AND MODERNIZATION OF THE SOVIET

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 02494 02 OF 02 291052Z

NAVY; AND FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN NATO'S AIR DEFENSES, AND IN ITS LOGISTICS SUPPORT FACILITIES. IT RECOGNIZED THE INDIVISIBILITY OF THE DEFENSE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA AND, THEREFORE, THE NEED FOR AN ADEQUATE ALLOCATION OF FORCES

AND BALANCED MILITARY EFFORT ON THE FLANKS AS WELL AS IN THE CENTRAL REGION. THE NEED TO EXPLOIT THE OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE NATO'S DETERENT AND DEFENSE CAPABILITIES WAS ACKNOWLEDGED.

12. THE GUIDANCE RECOGNIZED THAT NATO WITHIN ITS LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT COULD ATTAIN AND MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE FORCE STRENGTHENED FOR DETERRENCE AND DEFENSE IF NATIONS WORKED TOGETHER MORE EFFICIENTLY ACROSS THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF NATO'S COLLECTIVE EFFORTS; AND THAT THIS PROCESS WOULD BE FACILITATED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MORE COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK FOR DEFENSE PLANNING INCORPORATING A LONG-TERM APPROACH. THE GUIDANCE LAID SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE NEED FOR HARMONIZING NATIONAL EQUIPMENT PLANNING PROCEDURES BASED ON COMMON THREAT CRITERIA AND AGREED OPERATIONAL CONCEPTS, PHILOSOPHIES AND DOCTRINES.

13. AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE ADVERSE TRENDS IN THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT AND TO AVOID A CONTINUED DETERIORATION IN RELATIVE FORCE CAPABILITIES, THE GUIDANCE CALLED FOR AN ANNUAL INCREASE IN REAL TERMS IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURE TO BE ADOPTED BY ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES. COUNTRIES WERE ALSO URGED TO INCREASE THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR DEFENSE EXPENDITURES, IN PARTICULAR THE PERCENTAGE DEVOTED TO MAJOR EQUIPMENT, BUT WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO COMBAT READINESS. STREATOR

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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009